

Subject: North Carolina BS bill

Griffin, Susie, Miss

1929

[Mt. Kisco, NY]

April 29<sup>th</sup> 1929.

Metropolitan Museum of Art,  
Central Park  
New York City.

Dear Sirs,

Death has suddenly,  
and unexpectedly entered our  
home, taking our brother,  
leaving us, three two sisters  
weak frail girls (unable to  
work,) with no income no  
money and just crushed  
and heart broken.

No one in all this world to  
protect and help us, and  
we are so worried, its  
impossible to eat or sleep.  
My mother passed on to the  
Homeland four years ago,  
and my father a few years  
before, and now with my  
brother gone the sadness and  
loneliness seems truly  
harder than either of us  
(Over)



- (2) -

have strength to bear,  
and then this constant worry  
and fear of how we are going  
to take care of ourselves  
and pay necessary living  
expenses is constant torture  
and unless we have assistance  
in a few days think we will  
lose our minds or will join  
our loved ones in "The  
Better Land"

Therefore am writing you  
not to borrow or beg but  
for information and we  
will appreciate with all our  
hearts the efforts personal  
influence and help you  
will give us in this matter.  
I am not exaggerating in  
any way when I say the  
result means life or death.  
And I can think of no more  
fitting words to express our  
thanks and gratitude for your  
kindness and trouble in  
helping us secure what we



are truly <sup>(3)</sup> suffering for than  
these, - And as much as you  
have done it unto one of the  
least of these you have done  
it unto me."

In my father's desk I have  
found some old coins.  
And a Five dollar bill  
Printed by James Davis in  
1778. North Carolina Currency.  
Across one side are the words -  
"Death to Counterfeit".  
The bill is in perfect condition  
and all printing, etc, is clear  
and plain.

The coins are as follows, -  
Two large old copper pennies  
dates 1884 and 1801.  
Another small copper penny  
date 1863. On the back  
are the words -  
"Army + Navy".  
A 111 (Three Cent silver piece)  
date 1867.  
I remember hearing my



(4)  
father say "That this old  
southern bill was rare,  
and very valuable, and the  
coins also, and collectors  
of Antiquary currency would  
be willing to pay almost  
any price to get them."  
My father prized them all  
and never offered them for  
sale. Now however my  
sister and I are sick  
alone sad and in need,  
and we feel we must  
part with our father's  
old coins and bill but  
we do not know of any  
wealthy collectors of Antiquary  
money or how or where  
to secure a purchaser for  
our rare old currency.  
Of course we fully  
understand that there  
are many wealthy people



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in this world, who are  
interested and eager to  
possess antique coins and  
especially a bill as old,  
rare, and curious as  
this North Carolina Five  
dollar bill of 1778 giving  
thousands of dollars for  
one, old coin. But as I  
have said before my sister and  
I do not know how or where  
to dispose of this old money,  
and we are so anxious to  
sell it for its all we have  
to help us in our bitter  
sorrow, and terrible financial  
need and are placing all our  
hopes on the sale of these  
old coins, and bill, and  
praying that God who  
watches over and cares for  
the sparrow and knows  
how to relieve and suffer,



(6)

will indeed send an angel  
of mercy and help to us,  
who will relieve our worry  
and need by buying our  
antique currency for a price  
that will mean life and  
relief to us. As you read  
this I ask you to please  
think how you would feel  
if death had come to your  
home taking some loved  
one, and leaving two frail  
weak sisters, daughters  
or mother, unprotected  
unprovided for and their  
only hope of securing the  
necessary means to have  
home and food was by the  
sale of some rare old currency,  
and not knowing how or  
where to dispose of it, they  
applied to a stranger for  
their influence and help  
in their trouble and need.  
Would you not feel that there



were no words sufficiently  
deep and heartfelt that I  
could adequately express your  
gratitude and thankfulness  
if this stranger gave them  
the interest, sympathy and  
help they so sorely needed?  
And this is exactly what  
my sister and I are asking  
and praying that you will  
do for us in our sorrow  
and financial need.  
And I know <sup>"I will"</sup> the bread that  
you cast upon the waters  
will indeed return to you.  
Once again I beg that you  
will give this true interest  
and that relief and help  
will come in two or three  
days, that will brighten our  
sad, worried lives. And I  
am sure God will bless  
and reward you, and our



heartfelt gratitude will  
follow you always.

Thanking you in advance  
for your kindness, interest,  
and help, and awaiting  
with eager hopeful  
anticipation for your reply.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE  
RECEIVED

APR 30 1929

I am  
Yours truly

Miss Susie Griffin,  
Mount Kisco,  
Box 305,  
New York.

I have also a one dollar bill  
which is different from those  
now in circulation. On one side  
are the pictures of George and  
Martha Washington. And all  
around the edge of the bill  
are little circles containing names.  
On the side where the circles are  
is the figure of a woman with  
her arm around a child. She is  
pointing with the other at something which  
looks like the Statue of Liberty.



4th May, 1929

Miss Susie Griffin,  
Box 305, Mount Kisco, N.Y.

Dear Madam:

Your letter to the Metropolitan Museum of Art has been referred to us for reply, as they do not collect coins and in consequence know no one who does.

It is with great regret that we have to inform you that your North Carolina five-dollar bill has no real value. At the very most you would be lucky to get \$1.00 for it. Your two one-cent pieces are worth about 10 or 15 cents each. Your other two pieces have no premium.

We know of no one we could tell you to go to. As far as we can see your only hope would be to try to sell them to someone in your neighborhood as no collector of our acquaintance would probably give over \$1.00 for all your pieces, as all of these could be obtained without any trouble from any dealer in New York.

Very truly yours,

Curator